Washington Post's Policy: Fullest Possible Attribution

Benjamin C. Bradlec, executive editor of The Washington Post, issued the following statement yesterday on background briefings:

Over the last five years, the reporters and editors of this newspaper have become increasingly concerned about the use and abuse of unattributed information by the government at background briefings.

In theory, unattributed information given to the press by the government at background briefings enables the press to do a better job of reporting.

In practice, this is less and less true. Background briefings have become vehicles for the government to give its versions of the news, to use the press as a vehicle for its policy announcements and its political advantage without taking responsibility for what it is saying

This practice has been true of every administration. This newspaper has long been a party to this practice. The public has suffered from this collusion between the government and the press.

We now are convinced that we have engaged in this deception and done this disservice to the reader long

Therefore, it is now the policy of The Washington Post, in its coverage on government news briefings, to insist on public accountability for the public business.

We instructed our reporters to insist through every means available to them that material offered at these briefings should be on the record and fully attributable.

If ground rules are imposed providing for anything less than full attribution on the record, Washington Post reporters will immediately ask that attribution be made direct on the record.

If that request is refused, the reporter will seek attribution specific enough so that no readers can reasonably be confused.

If this request is refused, the Washington Post has instructed its reporters to inform the agency or official that the newspaper's handling of the material will be determined by the editors' judgment of their responsibility to inform the public. We believe that responsibility cannot be transferred by us to any public official or circumscribed by government edict. The Washington

Post believes that while certain circumstances may make full, on the record attribution impractical, the public interest is not served by permitting statements of policy to be made by government officials who are unwilling to be held accountable for their own words.

The decision whether to remain voluntarily in the briefing is one for the reporter's discretion. Under normal conditions he would remain and report under these guidelines.

Nothing in this policy concerns contacts with government officials and other new sources initiated by reporters of The Washington Post. In these instances, the contacts will continue on an independent, individual basis, under terms understood and accepted by the reporter and the news source.

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Post Criticized for Identitying

By Don Oberderler Washington Post Staff Welter

Ronald L. Ziegler and a Los Angeles Times correspondent which were reported in varcriticized The Washington Post ious ways by major newspayesterday for revealing the pers, wire services and netsource of official "background" statements regarding relations with the Soviet Union.

The article in question, in Wednesday's Post, identified presidential adviser Henry A. Kissinger as the source of a ice to the reader long statement that the President may reconsider his forthcoming trip to Moscow unless the Russians exercise a restraining influence in the India-Pakistan conflict.

The Kissinger statement was made to five reporters in a "press pool" aboard the presidential plane retuning from the Nixon-Pompidou talks in the Azores. Kissinger made his comments with the under-stancing that they could only be used by reporters without attribution to him or any administration official.

Ziegler said the Post story citing Kissinger as the source broke the ground rules of the excounter and "is unacceptato the White House." He said he would begin consultations with the White House Correspondents Association, wire services and broadcast networks to establish clear "ground rules" for future situations, including interviews aboard the presidential plane.

David J. Kraslow, Washing Pompidou. ton bureau chief of the Los In Client Angeles Times and a member of the Tuesday press pool, charged The Post with "unprofessional, unethical, chean journalism" in citing Kissinwere elicited by the reporters on the aircraft "under the most intensive kind of concationing" and only a or they gave assurance to hissinger that he would not be identified as the source.

Benjamin C. Bradlec, execu-

tive editor of The T Post, defender of per's handler

1 state 1 mg

"haskground briefings." Brad-Precidential press secretary lee said it was common knowledge that Kissinger was the source of the statements -works yesterday - but that the "ground rules" kept this information from the reader.

> Referring to unattributed information from officials at background briefings, Bradlee said. "We are convinced that we have engaged in this deception and done this disservenough." He said the policy of The Post shall be "to make every reasonable effort to attribute information to its source" and to view unattributed information with "skepticism and suspicion."

In presidential travel and in some other situations, a small group of journalists known as the press "pool" customarily accompanies the Chief Executive. Their job is make sure that some reporters are with, uations, and to pass along anypress corps.

The five-member press pool for Tuesday-chosen by the White House-left the Azores -including British, Canadian, at his plan to visit Moscow. Danish, French, German,

dent travels in another com-lit.)

Kissinge

remarks concerning U.S.-So- identified him as such, Execuviet relations was marked on tive Editor Bradlee said he the pool report to "be written made the decision at 8 p.m. on our own without attribu- Tuesday. tion to any administration offi-cial." Shortly after the presi-formed the White House in stories on the matter.

viet Union begins to exercise a attribution by The Post. restraining influence in the bers of the pool.

The CBS Evening News rethe President in all public sit- ported that Mr. Nixon "let it ported that Air. Aixon "let it ground briefings" — in which be known tonight" that he information is given the press thing they learn to the entire might re-examine Soviet- information is given the press American relations if Russia source not be identified—has does not restrain India. The been controversial among NBC Nightly News attributed Washington journalists for on Mr. Nixon's jet. The 63 ministration." The ABC News many years. Bradlee said yesother members of the travels said "it's reported" that the terday that Post reporters and ing White House press corps President may take a new look editors had become increas-

By the time press secretary Malian, Japanese, Swedish Ziegler and the bulk of the abuse of unattributed informa-and Swiss journalists—re-press corps landed here in tion over the last five years. main-d behind for three two charter hats about 7:30 When Kissinger began his hours to file their stories on p.m., the stories mentioned Mr. Nixon's meeting with above had been widely dispensed. The pool report moon, he was reminded that had not been given to the singer came heals to the at a solution of the presidential plane, Kisting press corps in flight, grounders had become public singer came heals to the at a solution of the presidential plane, Kisting press corps in flight, grounders had become public singer came heals to the at a solution of the presidential plane.

ger as the source. Kraslow ments about the United on the record denying that that incident, and remarked—said Kissinger's remarks were states attitude regarding the any U.S. official was suggestion in our lap" but were elicited by the reporters on the aircraft "under the southing that Mr. Nixon was contact that the purpose of doing the on the aircraft "under the southing that Mr. Nixon was contact that the purpose of doing the on the aircraft "under the southing that Mr. Nixon was contact the southing of we was then com-trip to Russia. (Kissinger had to prevent inflaming of the roted by members of the said the President might con-issue. to Kis inger's compartment plans; he did not say the Presfor his supposal. The President was already considering

The portion of Kissinger's news wires and networks, and

dential jet landed, major wire early evening that it would services distributed "urgent" attribute the Kissinger statements to "a high White House The Associated Press re-official." The Times did so ported that "President Nixon in its early editions and in may reassess his plans for a later editions quoted Kissinger historic journey to Moscow, it is understood, unless the So. by name on the basis of public

India-Pakistan war." United India-Pakistan war." United Press International said "Pressident Nixon will re-examine the Washington-Moscow thaw and his planned spring trip to Moscow if Russia continues to encourage India's military drive against Pakistan, it was understood Tuesday." The AP and UPI reperfers were mem-Seymour Topping, assistant understood Tuesday." The AP story was "unacceptable" in and UPI reporters were mem-bers of the pool nature of the material.

The question of "backingly concerned about use and

singer came back to the aft as is often the case, because when it was inserted into the compartment occupied by the of communications difficulties. Congressional Record by Sen. press pool. There under questioning he made the state-ler began issuing statements appeared to be irritated about manis, a hour to the United as the receipt of the their incident, and remarked—

partment of the plane, but The Washington Post estab-Approved For Release 2004/09/28 CIA RDP 88-01914R000300380064-2 For Release your mence of the stories which

2.2 NOV 1971 Approved For Release 2004/09/28 : CIA-RDP88-01314R000300380064-2 Ex-Washington Post Editor

Joins St. Petersburg Times -

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. Nov. 20 (UPI)—Eugene Patterson, 48 years old, formed editor of The Washington Post, will become editor of The St. Petersburg Times nxet May, the Florida newspaper announced Friday night.

Mr. Patterson, a former editor of The Atlanta Constitu-tion, will succeed Donald K. Baldwin, who will retire at age 55 under the newspaper's early retirement plan.

John B. Lake, executive vice president and general manager, has been promoted to publisher, a position vacant since the death of Paul Poynter in 1950.

Mr. Patterson is now at Duke University's Institute of Policy

Sciences.

WASHINGTON POST NAMES PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10 (AP)
--Ketharine Graham, president of the Washington Post Company, today announced the appointment of John S. Prescott Jr. as president of The Washington Post.

Mr. Prescott has been vice president and general manager of Philadelphia Newspapers, Inc., publisher of The Philadelphia Enquirer and The Philadelphia Daily News.

Before moving to Philadel-

Before moving to Philadelphia, he had been general manager of The Charlotte (N.C.)
Observer and The Charlotte News.

News.
A graduate of Williams College, Mr. Prescott, 44 years old, has spent his entire career in the newspaper husiness, beginning as an advertising salesman with the Baltimore sunpapers.
As president of The Post, he succeeds Paul R. Ignatius, who resigned last month.

had resigned as president of nounced shortly. the morning newspaper.

resignation said:

and resigned as president of the morning newspaper.

The announcement of the resignation said:

"In the meantime, Mr. Ignatious, 51 years old, had been president of the post and will remain as a director of The Washington Post and was agreed to comment.

WASHINGTON POST

ANNOUNCES SHIFT

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20

The Washington Post announced today that Paul R. Ignatious had resigned as president of

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4 OCTOBER 1971

DEGREES IN PARANOIA

BERKELEY RICE

Mr. Rice, a free-lance writer, has written many books and Lansdale, a retired Air Force general who would have magazine articles. His latest book is The C-5A Scandal, become its director had Johnson not picked him to run published in May by Houghton Mifflin.

What do West Point, Annapolis, Colorado Springs and Boston, Virginia, have in common? The first three are the sites of the U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force Acady emies. But Boston, (pop. 450) Virginia? That's the like to call the "Cold-War West Point" (see editorial: "Perfect Timing," The Nation, July 5). It serves as the headquarters for a vast and varied program of propaganda aimed at building public support for hard-line defense policies, increasing defense spending, and alerting the country to the menace of world communism.

It was supposed to be the United Freedom Academy, but the bill which would have authorized its establishment by the federal government never got through Congress. Backed by a group of conservative Congressmen in 1965, it reached the House Un-American Activities Committee, which approved it unanimously. The Johnson administration, however, along with the Departments of State, Defense and Justice, opposed the idea on the ground that it would duplicate and conflict with the work of existing government schools and agencies.

Though deprived of federal funds, the project's backers raised enough money from private corporations and foundations to get the Center started in 1966. This year they have launched a fund-raising campaign aimed at turning the Center into a full-scale "Cold-War College." A special appeal on behalf of the Center sent out by former Ambassador to Italy Clare Boothe Luce (whose Longlea Farm is also located in Boston, Va.) has brought in contributions from thousands of patriotic Americans.

While the Center still has no official federal support, it does have powerful friends in Washington. Its advisory board lists Vice President Spiro Agnew, Cabinet Secretaries John Volpe, Rogers Morton and George Romney, plus nine Senators (Mundt, Boggs, Harry Byrd, Dominick, Hansen, Hatfield, Long, Miller, Thurmond), twenty-eight Representatives and six state governors. Relations with the Pentagon are equally cordial. The Defense Department was instrumental in the Center's creation, and still provides high-ranking speakers and other forms of cooperation. At the Center's dedication ceremonies in 1966, the Joint Chiefs of Staff sent the Army's Director of Special Studies, an admiral from the Navy's Military Policy Division, a military color guard and a twentypiece Navy band. J. Edgar Hoover sent his greetings, and President Lyndon Johnson wired: "You have my every wish for success."

One wonders how much President Johnson knew about this new venture to which he gave his blessing. The draft plan for Freedom ApproyedaFor Release 2004/09/28: 5140 RDP 88-01314 R00030038006402 at elections, ASC

the U.S. counterinsurgency program in Vietnam. In the draft proposal Lansdale described the Academy as a center of "psycho-political warfare," and saw its potential students as "men of good will who-if they just knew how-are willing to strike a blow for liberty. . . . Such a blow, struck the right way and the right moment, could home of the Freedom Studies Center, which its organizers/well change the course of history in favor of freedom." Lansdale envisaged sending teams of Academy graduates. to foreign countries at the request of local political leaders, or "acceptable third parties." These freedom teams would "assist with practical advice on how to resolve problems of concern to freedom." Lansdale was not specific about what such problems might be, but those familiar with his thinking feel he meant the "liberation" of Soviet bloc countries, and the suppression of popular uprisings in 10.1-Communist nations.

> If all this sounds a bit like a private CIA, it should. Major General Lansdale is a former CIA official. The Center's directors of education and special projects are both former CIA men. One of the first guist speakers at the Center was ex-CIA chief. Allen Dulles. In the words of its president, John Fisher, the Center's purpose. is "to fill the gap between what the government can do, and what must be done," which describes equally well the activities of the CIA.

Though his background in foreign intelligence is minimal, Fisher has had considerable experience in domestic intelligence work. A former FBI agent, he joined Sears Roebuck in 1953 to run its "corporate security" program, which in that McCarthy era meant rooting out suspected Communist employees, rather than guarding against industrial espionage. Fisher then moved on to the staff of the American Security Council (ASC), an industrial blacklist organization that keeps tabs on alleged subversives for the benefit of member companies,

Since 1960 the ASC has shifted its emphasis from the threat of internal subversion to external military dangers. Using its own influential newsletter and radio program, it has become a powerful propaganda center for hard-line defense strategists, with close ties to the Pentagon and Congress. In recent years the House Armed Services Committee has commissioned studies from ASC on Soviet nuclear and maritime power. Both reports unsurprisingly called for sharp increases in U.S. defense spending, ASC also helped to mobilize nongovernmental support for the ABM, publishing its own book in defense of the system. None of ASC's studies mention that its corporate members include such major defense contractors as General Electric, North American Aviation, U.S. Steel, Republic Steel, Motorola and Honeywell. In 1969, the ASC and its publishing subsidiary ASC Press, spent more than



STEPHEN'V. ARMSTRONG ... disappeared Saturday

Post Editor, 25, Missing For 3 Days

Stephen V. Armstrong, an assistant editor for The Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service, has not been seen since leaving his home for work on Saturday.

Armstrong, 25, was driving a yellow 1971 Volvo station wagon, Maryland license number KE 7387, when he left his home in Bethesda about 2 p.m. on Saturday. He was due to report at The Post, at 1515 L St. NW, at 2:30 p.m.

His wife, told Montgomery County police her husband was wearing a beige shirt, brown corduroy trousers, beige cotton jacket and brown boots. He is 5 feet 10, weighs 130 pounds, has brown eyes, dark brown hair and wears glasses to drive.

6 AUG 1971

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Newman Probe On George Jessel Sought Over Gag

Rep. William II. Harsha, R-Ohio, says commentator Edwin Newman had unfairly consored comedian George Jessel during a television interview, and he has asked the House to investigate the incident.

Harsha referred to a conversation Friday between Newman and Jessel on NBC-TV's "Today" show. Jessel, with deliberate slips of the tongue, equated the Washington Post and the New York Times with the official Soviet newspaper Prayda. Newman told Jessel his remarks were in poor taste and ended the interview ahead of schedule.

Harsha said yesterday he had asked Chairman Harley O. Staggers of the House Commerce Committee to investigate the matter

Harsha said Pravda is the Russian word for "truth" and said Jessel was "being sarcastic... scornfully questioning the objectivity of the Post and the Times."

Post Names Simons As Managing Editor

Howard Simons, deputy managing editor of The Washington Post, has been named managing editor of the newspaper, it was announced yesterday.

Simons, 42, succeeds Eugene C. Patterson, who resigned Monday to accept a position on the faculty of Duke University's newly created Institute of Policy Sciences and Public Affairs.

A native of Albany, N. Y., Simons graduated from Union College in Schencetady and from Columbia University School of Journalism.

He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard in 1958 and 1959, and a reporter and editor for Science Service in Washington between 1956 and 1959,

Simons joined The Post staff as a science reporter in Washington reporting and he managing editor in 1966 and has won three awards for his deputy managing editor in science writing. 1970. In 1966, he won the Raymond Clapper Award for best four daughters.



HOWARD SIMONS ... joined Post in 1961

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Grand Jury Probes

Times, Post, Globe

By Ken W. Clawson

. A federal grand jury in Boston is investigating possible criminal charges against The New York Times, The Washington Post and The Boston Globe in connection with the publication of secret Pentagon documents on Vietnam.

Neil Sheehan, a New York Times reporter credited with breaking the story about the U.S. decision-making process on Vietnam, and his wife Susan, a magazine writer and author, were also named in the government's case before the Boston grand jury last week, The Post has learned.

Government officials have hinted at the possibility of empaneling an East Coast grand jury to seek criminal charges against those who conveyed and accepted the top-secret Pentagon papers along with

Dr. Daniel Ellsberg, who has admitted leaking the papers to the press. He has been charged with unauthorized possession of classified documents.

Sources said last night that the government in utmost secrecy started its criminal investigation by presenting evidence before a federal grand jury that has been sitting in Boston on other matters since early April.

Two persons employed by different printing firms in the greater Boston area testified before the grand jury last week. Sources said the prin-ters apparently were involved in copying parts of the 47volume Pentagon study that ultimately ended up in possession of The New York Times.

Ellsberg was not involved in carly testimony and that the government seemed to be concentrating initially on how the documents were duplicated and how they came into possession of The Times.

Two unidentified lawyers from the Justice Department's Internal Security Division and Richard E. Bachman, 36, an assistan Abbroweth For Release 2004/09/28 ha@A-RDR88-01314R000300380064-2 ton, reportedly stressed to the federal criminal laws in con-

proceedings were separate in

Washington Post Staff Writer themselves and did not conflict with the Supreme Court ,decision permitting the newspapers to publish the con-

tents of the documents. Secrecy of the proceedings was stringent, with U.S. Attorney Herbert F. Travers Jr. discarding the usual policy of making public both witness lists and the subject of a grand jury probe.

In Washington, Justice Department officials would not disclose the names of the internal security lawyers who appeared before the grand

jury.
"I don't think I ought to comment on the comings and goings of our attorneys," a Justice official said. "Why possibly tip our hand?"

The sources said it was not immediately clear what sort of crimnal charges the government is seeking. "It looks like a fishing expedition to me," said one source. "They don't seem to have much."

Use of the grand jury's subpoena power to compile information on the leaked papers was in line with beliefs of other government sources that the Justice Department will prosecute some newspapers and individuals if it can build . a case.

These government sources said that Attorney General John N. Mitchell had not decided whether to proceed criminally when he left last week for an American Bar Association meeting in Lon-

The Internal Security division reportedly was charged with developing evidence to present to Mitchell when he returns on July 28.

The Justice Department's in-The same sources said that tention to prosecute was clearly stated July 1 when Mitchell said, "Since the beginning of the investigation of the Pentagon's classified documents, all avenues of criminal prosecution have remained open.

"A review of the Court's opinions indicates that there is nothing in them to affect this situation. The Department of Justice is continuing its investigation and will prosecute

federal criminal laws in congrand jury that the criminal nection with this matter." The mention of Susan Shee-

speculation that the government believes she may have been a conduit through which the documents passed to The New York Times. She has not been mentioned in any Times account of the incident. Nor is she identified in the new Bantam book, "The Pentagon Papers," based on "investigative reporting by Neil Shee-han."

Mrs. Sheehan is a contributor to the Talk of the Town column for The New Yorker magazine. She has written major stories on the Buckley women, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and Ethel Kennedy for the Ladies Home Journal and McCall's. She has also written a book, "Ten Vietna-mese," through which she recounts the tragedy of the war on the people of South Vict-

Material for the book was gathered during 1965 and 1966 while her husband was a New York Times correspondent in Saigon. It was published in 1967.

Court Move Hailed at Washington Post; More Articles Due

By CHRISTOPHER LYDON Special to The New York Times

Executives of The Washington United States Disc. Executives of The Washington
Post applauded the Supreme
Court's decision today and prepared to publish a three-day
series of articles based on their
partial collection of the Pentagon papers.

Katharine Graham, publisher of The Post, said:

"We are terribly gratified by

Court announcement.

United States District Judge
Anthony Julian, who had imposed the order last week,
dissolved it on a motion from
lawyers representing The
Globe.

The Globe immediately retrieved its copies of the documents, which the judge had
ordered placed in a vault until
the case was settled.

"We are terribly gratified by the case was settled. the result in this historic case, not just for the sake of the press but for the sake of the public and the good of the documents. "Everybody is darn happy around here," he country."

by far the most important thing quired on Monday. I've ever been involved in."

Mr. Bradlee said that The Post had 4,415 pages from the more than 7,000 page study of American involvement in the Vietnam war. He also said that fresh material from the official study was still coming in from the office of Scnator Mike Gravel, Democrat of Alaska. "We don't yet know whether

we've got access to the whole thing," Mr. Bradlee added.
The Post had printed two long articles on the secret Pentagon study on June 18 and 19 before being restrained by a three-judge panel of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

The first article dealt with American policy of the state of the st

American policy at the time of the French defeat and with-

or the French dereat and withdrawal in 1954, the second with the bombing pause of 1968.

Mr. Bradlee indicated this evening that the forthcoming Post articles, like the earlier ones, would quote from the original Government documents that formed the basis of the that formed the basis of the Pentagon analysis. The Post will not reprint the documents themselves, Mr. Bradlee said.

Bar on Boston Globe Lifted. Special to The New York Times

BOSTON, June 30-A temporary restraining order barring The Boston Globe from printing articles based on its copies of the Pentagon documents was lifted today almost immediately after the Supreme

said.

"It's beautiful," said Benja. Meanwhile, The Christian min Bradlee, the executive editor, shortly after the Court's under restraint, continued pub-verdict was announced. "It's secret documents that it ac-

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'Project X': Reston (lighting pipe), Smith (left), Wicker, Sheehan, Frankel

A Great Sense of Elation

come time in mid-March, Neil Sheehan, a Washington correspondent for The New York Times, was offered the Pentagon study and its supporting documents. The fact that it was Sheehan who was given this opportunity-a near-guarantee of a Pulitzer Prize-was no accident. A veteran of more than three years of reporting in Vietnam, Sheehan, 34, has won wide respect for his reflections on the political and moral implications of the war. In fact, at the same time the Pentagon papers fell into his hands, he was working on an examination of alleged American war crimes in Vietnam which subsequently appeared in the Sunday Times Book Review.

If, as Federal officials are now inclined to believe, the source of the documents was MIT scholar Daniel Ellsberg, he was no stranger to Sheehan. They had first met six years earlier at lunch in a downtown Saigon restaurant, and later, both in Vietnam and in Washington, their paths occasionally crossed again. But the actual process by which Sheehan obtained the 7,000-page collection still remains cloaked in obscurity. When he did get the chance to peruse it, however, he immediately realized that he possessed a treasure-trove of information of historic significance.

The top echelon of the Times—managing editor Abraham M. Rosenthal, Washington bureau chief Max Frankel, foreign editor James Greenfield and columnists James Reston and Tom Wicker -all agreed with Shechan's assessment and strongly urged publisher Arthur Ochs Sulzberger to let them give the Pentagon papers maximum coverage. "The Times must publish this material," said

Times after the untimely death of Orville Dryfoos eight years ago, it was not so simple a matter. Disseminating what were, after all, classified documents was certain to set the Times on another collision course with an already hostile Nixon Administration. And Louis M. Loeb,

on Administration. And Louis M. Loeb, legal counsel to the paper, sternly warned Sulzberger against publishing material the lawyer considered "improper" for The New York Times.

What one Timesman termed a "ferocious, bloody battle" then took place between Loeb and editors Rosenthal and Reston. The Times's chief legal adviser, James Goodale, suggested that if the paper did choose to publish the archive, it could best be done in a single edition. The disadvantage of Goodale's proposal was that the Times would get less of a was that the Times would get less of a circulation boost from a single-shot effort than it could get by stretching the story out for more than a week. Its advantage was that by printing everything at one swoop, the paper could avoid the danger of a government injunction.

Despite the injunction risk, however,



one of them were the first of the control of the co

ger, who inherited the top job at the

Sulzberger: Rite of passage

continued